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building divided into 20 compartments, each subdivided into 3 subdivisions. The first of these has a seat and when the occupant removes his clothes, he puts them into a bundle and affixes a tag to them; they are immediately taken off to be steamed; he then enters the second compartment where he is provided with soap, and by opening a valve receives a warm douche; he then proceeds to the third compartment, dresses himself and awaits his steamed clothes. Then he either returns to the ship or is conducted to the detention building. There is always kept a supply of antiplague serum, and on the arrival of an infected ship, all persons not refusing it are injected.

On the arrival of a ship from a port infected with plague the hold is fastened up; the passengers and crew are medically examined, and the linen and bedding disinfected. Then the ship is allowed to proceed to Marseille, but required to fly the yellow flag to signify that the rats have not been examined. On arrival at the dock all cables are required to be fitted with funnels and guards are placed at the gangways to prevent rats coming ashore. After the passengers have landed the hold is searched for dead rats, and, if such are found, it is considered as justifying extreme precautions. If no dead rats are found, traps are set, and both these and the dead ones examined for plague. If plague-infected rats are found the ship is sent back to Frioul to kill the rats and for an efficient disinfection. The rats on the docks are constantly being warred on and examined. On one occasion the rats of 1 dock were found infected. The dock was at once closed and the rats were exterminated.

As showing the importance of an examination of the rats on ships, the following figures are of great interest: From January to March of this year, 44 ships arrived from plague-infected ports; of this number, 7 were found with plague-infected rats aboard.

The dead rats are handled by means of a square of cloth wet in bichloride solution. Sulphur is used to kill the rats, but the objections noted by the authorities are that it does not kill quickly and the rats are able to get into inaccessible places before dying and that ship-owners complain of its effect on the ironwork and cargo. Experiments are now being made with  $\text{CO}_2$ .

In 1896 there arrived at French ports from plague infected countries 11 ships; in 1897, 80; in 1898, 209; in 1899, 368; in 1900, 655, or a total of 1,348 ships; of this number 801 arrived at Marseille.

Nothing could show more forcibly the great increase of plague in different parts of the world. There has been plague in Egypt, Portugal, Italy, Scotland, England, and Turkey, but not 1 case has been reported in France.

#### GERMANY.

##### *Report from Berlin—Plague and cholera in various countries.*

BERLIN, GERMANY, May 13, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the latest information regarding plague and cholera, obtained from the Kaiserlichen-Gesundheitsamt (Imperial health office), at Berlin.

##### *Plague.*

TURKEY.—The governor-general of Erzerum made known on May 18, that in the vicinity of Bajazid there are no plague cases, but, according to the statements of medical men, only influenza and typhoid fever prevail.

EGYPT.—From May 16 to May 22, inclusive, 32 new plague cases and 21 deaths have been registered. From May 23 to May 29, 16 plague cases and 10 deaths were reported.

BRITISH INDIA.—According to the weekly bulletins from the Bombay Presidency, there were registered during the week ended May 16, in the city of Bombay, 311 plague cases and 300 deaths. In the town and port of Karachi there occurred 71 cases and 65 deaths.

MADAGASCAR.—During the period from May 19 to May 27, 8 cases of plague and 4 deaths occurred in Majunga.

QUEENSLAND.—During the week ended April 26, there were recorded in Brisbane 7 fresh plague cases and 1 death.

*Plague and cholera.*

BRITISH INDIA.—In Calcutta, during the week from April 27 to May 3, 441 persons died of plague and 82 persons died of cholera.

*Cholera.*

TURKEY.—In Medina, between May 6 and May 13, 21 cases of cholera were reported. In Yambo, between April 12 and May 19, 341 cases of cholera were recorded, 207 with fatal termination.

DUTCH INDIES.—From April 9 to April 22, there occurred, in Tegal, 18 cases of cholera and 12 deaths.

JAVA.—Between March 21 and March 31, 1,110 new cases of cholera and 770 deaths were registered.

Respectfully,

FRANK H. MASON,  
*United States Consul-General.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL, *U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

GUATEMALA.

*Reports from Puerto Barrios—Sanitary conditions and inspection of vessels.*

PUERTO BARRIOS, GUATEMALA, *June 16, 1902.*

SIR: The sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week ended June 14, has been good. The following steamships have cleared from this port: June 10, British steamship *Anselm*, for New Orleans, with 7 passengers and 15 pieces of disinfected baggage. June 12, Norwegian steamship *Condor*, for New Orleans, with cargo of fruit.

Respectfully,

D. P. ALBERS,  
*Resident Medical Inspector for the  
Louisiana State Board of Health at Puerto Barrios.*

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

*Report of outgoing quarantine for the week ended June 7, 1902.*

HONOLULU, H. I., *June 9, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of outgoing quarantine transactions at this port for the week ended June 7, 1902: Steamships inspected and passed, 2; sailing vessels inspected and passed, 3; cabin passengers inspected and passed, 12; steerage passengers inspected and passed, none; crews inspected and passed, 86; baggage disinfected, 40 pieces; sailing vessels disinfected, 4.

Respectfully,

L. E. COFER,  
*Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.,  
Chief Quarantine Officer, Hawaii.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL, *U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*